GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING
LOK SABHA

STARRED QUESTION NO:284
ANSWERED ON:19.03.2007
EXPANSION OF AIR/DD COVERAGE
Siddeswara Shri Gowdar Mallikarjunappa

Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government is considering a proposal for expanding the coverage of the All India Radio (AIR) and Doordarshan during the Eleventh Five Year Plan;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether any efforts are being made to make special transmission arrangements for the backward and rural areas of the country; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI P. R. DASMUNSI)

(a) to (d) : A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (d) OF LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO.284 TO BE ANSWERED ON 19TH MARCH 2007 REGARDING EXPANSION OF AIR / DD COVERAGE.

(a) to (b) : Yes, Sir. However, Eleventh Plan is yet to be finalized.

(c) to (d) : The extent of TV coverage in terrestrial mode is 79 per cent by area and 91 per cent by population of the country including rural and backward areas. Similarly, the extent of coverage of AIR is 91.78 per cent by area and 99.14 per cent by population of the country including rural and backward areas. The whole of the country except Andaman and Nicobar Islands is also covered through Doordarshan's free to air DTH service. The DTH service was launched primarily for providing AIR/TV coverage to uncovered backward and rural areas. Some more FM radio stations in such areas will also be considered under the Eleventh Plan subject to availability of funds.